This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-28 (Cancelled)

29. A method for streaming media through at least a portion of a network, the method comprising:

transferring an initial portion of a stream of data from a first device to at least a second device through an interconnecting network;

establishing a desired quality of service path within at least a portion of the network from the first device to the second device; and

transferring a subsequent portion of the stream of data over the established quality of service path from the first device to the second device.

30. The method as recited in Claim 29, wherein transferring the initial stream of data from the first device to the second device occurs, at least partially, while establishing the quality of service path.

31. The method as recited in Claim 29, wherein transferring the initial stream of data from the first device to the second device occurs until the quality of service path is established.

32. The method as recited in Claim 29, wherein transferring the initial stream of data from the first device to the second device further includes establishing a data connection using a first protocol, and wherein establishing the quality of service path from the first device to the second device further includes establishing a desired flow specification using a second protocol.

33. The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein the first protocol includes a Real-Time Streaming Protocol (RTSP).

34. The method as recited in Claim 32, wherein the second protocol includes a Resource Reservation Protocol (RSVP).

35. The method as recited in Claim 29, wherein the initial portion of the stream of data is transferred between at least two network resources within the network at a first level of quality of service, and the subsequent portion of the stream of data is transferred over the established quality of service path at a second level of quality of service that is higher than the first level of quality of service.

36. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions for causing at least one processing unit to perform acts comprising:

streaming media through at least a portion of a network by:

transferring an initial portion of a stream of data from a first device to at least a second device through an interconnecting network;

establishing a desired quality of service path within at least a portion of the network from the first device to the second device; and

transferring a subsequent portion of the stream of data over the established quality of service path from the first device to the second device.

37. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 36, wherein transferring the initial stream of data from the first device to the second device occurs, at least partially, while establishing the quality of service path.

38. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 36, wherein transferring the initial stream of data from the first device to the second device occurs until the quality of service path is established.

39. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 36, wherein transferring the initial stream of data from the first device to the second device further includes establishing a data connection using a first protocol, and wherein establishing the quality of service path from the first device to the second device further includes establishing a desired flow specification using a second protocol.

40. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 39, wherein the first protocol includes a Real-Time Streaming Protocol (RTSP).

41. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 39, wherein the second protocol includes a Resource Reservation Protocol (RSVP).

42. The computer-readable medium as recited in Claim 36, wherein the initial portion of the stream of data is transferred between at least two network resources within the network at a first level of quality of service, and the subsequent portion of the stream of data is transferred over the established quality of service path at a second level of quality of service that is higher than the first level of quality of service.

43. An apparatus suitable for use in streaming media within a network environment, the apparatus comprising:

memory containing media data; and

logic operatively coupled to the memory and configurable to:

transfer an initial portion of the media data as a stream of data to at least one device through a network,

establish a desired quality of service path within at least a portion of the network,and

transfer a subsequent portion of the media data as a subsequent stream of data over the established quality of service path.

44. The apparatus as recited in Claim 43, wherein the logic is further configurable to simultaneously transfer the initial portion of the media data and establish the desired quality of service path.

45. The apparatus as recited in Claim 43, wherein the logic is further configurable to transfer the initial portion of the media data until the desired quality of service path is established.

46. The apparatus as recited in Claim 43, wherein the logic is further configurable to establish a data connection using a first protocol, and a desired flow specification using a second protocol.

47. The apparatus as recited in Claim 46, wherein the first protocol includes a Real-Time Streaming Protocol (RTSP).

48. The apparatus as recited in Claim 46, wherein the second protocol includes a Resource Reservation Protocol (RSVP).

49. The apparatus as recited in Claim 43, wherein the logic is configurable to transfer the initial portion of the media data at a first level of quality of service, and the subsequent portion of the media data at a second level of quality of service that is higher than the first level of quality of service.

50. An apparatus suitable for use in streaming media within a network environment, the apparatus comprising:

memory suitable for storing received media data; and

logic operatively coupled to the memory and configurable to:

receive an initial portion of streamed media data though a network,

establish a desired quality of service path within at least a portion of the network, and

receive a subsequent portion streamed media data over the established quality of service path.

51. The apparatus as recited in Claim 50, wherein the logic is further configurable to simultaneously receive the initial portion of streamed media data and establish the desired quality of service path.

52. The apparatus as recited in Claim 50, wherein the logic is further configurable to receive the initial portion of streamed media data until the desired quality of service path is established.

53. The apparatus as recited in Claim 50, wherein the logic is further configurable to establish a data connection using a first protocol, and a desired flow specification using a second protocol.

54. The apparatus as recited in Claim 53, wherein the first protocol includes a Real-Time Streaming Protocol (RTSP).

55. The apparatus as recited in Claim 53, wherein the second protocol includes a Resource Reservation Protocol (RSVP).

56. The apparatus as recited in Claim 50, wherein the logic is configurable to receive the initial portion of streamed media data at a first level of quality of service, and the subsequent portion of streamed media data at a second level of quality of service that is higher than the first level of quality of service.